THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) As per Government instructions requirement for use of three languages for the sign-boards etc. is applicable to offices located in Region 'C' only. Bombay does not come in this category.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Yes, Sir, All the sign boards at National Airports Authority airport in Bombay are in accordance with the Government policy.

Inland Air Tax

2552. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Airlines have approached Government with the suggestion that it may be permitted to retain the inland air tax collected from each passenger ;

(b) what is the annual income from this air travel tax collected from the passengers ;

(c) whether the Indian Airlines have also decided to reduce the cancellation fee on air tickets to a nominal rate ;

(d) what was the earlier fee the passenger had to lose if the ticket was to be cancelled;

(e) what are the other steps Indian Airlines is considering to take to arrange the funds; and

(f) whether Government have agreed to the proposals for retaining the inland air travel tax collected from the passenger ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Annual Inland Air Travel Tax collection for the last three years is as under :—

Year	IATT collected (Rs. in crore)
1991-92	122.32
1992-93	160.50
1993-94	138.79

(c) The slab-wise cancellation charges have been removed by Indian Airlines with effect from 1-8-94 for passengers who cancel their booking upto one hour before the scheduled departure of the flight.

(d) The cancellation rules prior to August 1994 were as under :—

(i) 48 hours or more prior to departure of flights—Rs. 20.00

(ii) Less than 48 hours and upto 24 hours befored eparture of Flights—10% of Basic fare.

(iii) Less than 24 hours and upto one hour —25 % of Basic fare.

(iv) Within one hour of departure of flight —100% of Basic fare.

(e) The following are the main steps taken by Indian Airlines to meet the funds requirement :—

—Stepping up utilization of existing fleet to increase revenue.

—Reduction in expenditure without effecting efficiency/productivity.

—Freezing recruitment.

—Route rationalization.

—Import of ATF under Special Import licence.

—Indian Airlines has revised its domestic rupee fare ranging between 10% to 20% on all sctors effective 25-7-1994.

(f) No final decision has yet been taken by Government.

Irregularities in ITDC

2553. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitem which appeared in the "Sunday Mail" of June 5-11, 1994 captioned "ITDC Managers insecure over Security Agency" ;

(b) whether Government have ordered any investigation into the irregularities mentioned therein;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether Government have also received any memorandum of Appeal dated the 18th October, 1994 from All India Parytan Jan Mazdoor Sabha reg : immediate repatriation of Executive Director (Vigilance) ;